

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-20. (CANCELLED)

21. (NEW) A card issuing system for issuing an integrated chip (“IC”) card, the card issuing system comprising:

a card issuing center having a center communication means for transmitting card writing data, the card writing data including at least one of a card number and personal information; and

a base having a card communication mediate means for receiving the card writing data from the center communication means via a network, a card writer for receiving an IC card, and a cipher decoding means in communication with the card communication mediate means and the card writer, the cipher decoding means having an access key;

wherein while the card writer receives an IC card having an access key, the cipher decoding means being operable for determining whether the access key of the IC card and the access key of the cipher decoding means correspond to one another and, if the access keys correspond to one another, the cipher decoding means being further operable for enabling the card communication mediate means to receive the card writing data from the center communication means and transmit the received card writing data to the card writer for the card writer to write the card writing data to the IC card such that the card writing data is transmitted from the card issuing center to the IC card without being stored in the base thereby securing security of the at least one of the card number and the personal information of the card writing data.

22. (NEW) The card issuing system of claim 21 wherein:

the card issuing center further includes a log management database for storing a communication result indicative of the card writing data having been transmitted from the card issuing center to the IC card.

23. (NEW) The card issuing system of claim 21 wherein:

the card issuing center further includes a control terminal authentication means for determining as a function of authentication information uniquely associated with the card communication mediate means whether the card communication mediate means has authentication to receive card writing data from the center communication means, wherein the control terminal authentication means prevents the center communication means from transmitting card writing data to the card communication mediate means if the card communication mediate means lacks authentication.

24. (NEW) The card issuing system of claim 21 wherein:

the base further includes a card writer authentication means for determining as a function of authentication information uniquely associated with the card writer whether the card writer has authentication to receive card writing data from the card communication mediate means, wherein the card writer authentication means prevents the card communication mediate means from transmitting card writing data to the card writer if the card writer lacks authentication.

25. (NEW) A card issuing method for issuing an integrated chip (“IC”) card, the card issuing method comprising:

providing a card issuing center having a center communication means for transmitting card writing data, the card writing data including at least one of a card number and personal information;

providing a base having a card communication mediate means for receiving the card writing data from the center communication means via a network, a card writer for receiving an IC card, and a cipher decoding means in communication with the card communication mediate means and the card writer, the cipher decoding means having an access key; and

while the card writer receives an IC card having an access key, determining by the cipher decoding means whether the access key of the IC card and the access key of the cipher decoding means correspond to one another and, if the access keys correspond to one another, enabling by the cipher decoding means the card communication mediate means to receive the card

writing data from the center communication means and transmit the received card writing data to the card writer for the card writer to write the card writing data to the IC card such that the card writing data is transmitted from the card issuing center to the IC card without being stored in the base thereby securing security of the at least one of the card number and the personal information of the card writing data.

26. (NEW) The card issuing method of claim 25 further comprising:
storing in the card issuing center a communication result indicative of the card writing data having been transmitted from the card issuing center to the IC card.

27. (NEW) The card issuing method of claim 25 further comprising:
determining as a function of authentication information uniquely associated with the card communication mediate means whether the card communication mediate means has authentication to receive card writing data from the center communication means; and
preventing the center communication means from transmitting card writing data to the card communication mediate means if the card communication mediate means lacks authentication.

28. (NEW) The card issuing method of claim 25 further comprising:
determining as a function of authentication information uniquely associated with the card writer whether the card writer has authentication to receive card writing data from the card communication mediate means; and
preventing the card communication mediate means from transmitting card writing data to the card writer if the card writer lacks authentication.

29. (NEW) A card issuing system for issuing an integrated chip ("IC") card, the card issuing system comprising:
a card issuing center having a center communication means for transmitting card writing data, the card writing data including at least one of a card number and personal information; and

a base having a card communication mediate means for receiving the card writing data from the center communication means via a network and a card writer for receiving an IC card;

wherein while the card writer receives an IC card having an access key during a communication connection between the center communication means and the card communication mediate means, the card issuing center being operable for accessing the access key of the IC card and determining whether the IC card is authenticated based on the access key of the IC card and, if the IC card is authenticated, the card issuing center being further operable for enabling the card communication mediate means to receive the card writing data from the center communication means and transmit the received card writing data to the card writer for the card writer to write the card writing data to the IC card such that the card writing data is transmitted from the card issuing center to the IC card without being stored in the base thereby securing security of the at least one of the card number and the personal information of the card writing data.

30. (NEW) The card issuing system of claim 29 wherein:

the card issuing center further includes a log management database for storing a communication result indicative of the card writing data having been transmitted from the card issuing center to the IC card.

31. (NEW) The card issuing system of claim 29 wherein:

the card issuing center further includes a control terminal authentication means for determining as a function of authentication information uniquely associated with the card communication mediate means whether the card communication mediate means has authentication to receive card writing data from the center communication means, wherein the control terminal authentication means prevents the center communication means from transmitting card writing data to the card communication mediate means if the card communication mediate means lacks authentication.

32. (NEW) The card issuing system of claim 29 wherein:

the base further includes a card writer authentication means for determining as a function of authentication information uniquely associated with the card writer whether the card writer has authentication to receive card writing data from the card communication mediate means, wherein the card writer authentication means prevents the card communication mediate means from transmitting card writing data to the card writer if the card writer lacks authentication.

33. (NEW) A card issuing method for issuing an integrated chip ("IC") card, the card issuing method comprising:

providing a card issuing center having a center communication means for transmitting card writing data, the card writing data including at least one of a card number and personal information;

providing a base having a card communication mediate means for receiving the card writing data from the center communication means via a network and a card writer for receiving an IC card;

while the card writer receives an IC card having an access key during a communication connection between the center communication means and the card communication mediate means, accessing by the card issuing center the access key of the IC card and determining by the card issuing center whether the IC card is authenticated based on the access key of the IC card and, if the IC card is authenticated, enabling by the card issuing center the card communication mediate means to receive the card writing data from the center communication means and transmit the received card writing data to the card writer for the card writer to write the card writing data to the IC card such that the card writing data is transmitted from the card issuing center to the IC card without being stored in the base thereby securing security of the at least one of the card number and the personal information of the card writing data.

34. (NEW) The card issuing method of claim 33 further comprising:

storing in the card issuing center a communication result indicative of the card writing data having been transmitted from the card issuing center to the IC card.

35. (NEW) The card issuing method of claim 33 further comprising:
determining as a function of authentication information uniquely associated with
the card communication mediate means whether the card communication mediate means has
authentication to receive card writing data from the center communication means; and

preventing the center communication means from transmitting card writing data
to the card communication mediate means if the card communication mediate means lacks
authentication.

36. (NEW) The card issuing method of claim 33 further comprising:
determining as a function of authentication information uniquely associated with
the card writer whether the card writer has authentication to receive card writing data from the
card communication mediate means; and

preventing the card communication mediate means from transmitting card writing
data to the card writer if the card writer lacks authentication.